



Mystic Lake (149 acres) &
Middle Pond (108 acres)

BARNSTABLE

275 Total Acres

Not To Be Used For Navigational Purposes

MYSTIC LAKE & MIDDLE POND (Barnstable)

General Information:

These two warm water ponds totaling 257 acres are connected by a shallow channel and have similar characteristics. Mystic Lake, 149 acres, has an average depth of 20 feet and a maximum depth of 42 feet. Middle Pond, 108 acres, also has an average depth of 20 feet, but maximum depth is 33 feet. The bottom of these natural kettlehole ponds is primarily sand with scattered areas of gravel and rubble. Transparency is very good, extending to 18 feet, and aquatic vegetation is sparse. The shoreline is moderately developed with seasonal and permanent residences.

The ponds are located just west of Route 149 and just north of Hamblin Pond. Shoreline access is negligible, but there is a town ramp located at the south end of Middle Pond suitable for canoes, car top boats and possibly lightweight trailer boats. To get to the access take Mystic Drive from Route 149 around the south end of Hamblin Pond. The access is on the south end of Middle Pond, at the end of Flume Avenue. **There is a 10 horsepower limit on boat motors** enforced by the town.

The channel, which connects the two ponds, is only about a foot deep. As a result, those planning to fish Mystic Lake should plan on using a canoe or very shallow draft craft. This shallow access keeps recreational pressure on Mystic Lake quite light, even during summer.

Fish Populations:

There have been no recent fisheries surveys conducted on these lakes. A 1978 survey recorded 11 species: largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, chain pickerel, pumpkinseed, white perch, yellow perch, white sucker, banded killifish, brown bullhead, golden shiner and alewife (sea-run).

Fishing:

Due to the poor access and relatively light fishing pressure (particularly on Mystic Lake) these two ponds should offer some excellent fishing opportunities. At the time of the last survey both smallmouth and largemouth bass populations were healthy and there were considerable numbers of fish in the 12 to 18 inch range. Try deep-bodied crankbaits with lots of silver to mimic the alewife forage base, or stick with the usual dark jigs (with pork tails), grass shrimp or weighted rubber worms.

The best resource in the ponds at the time of the last sample was a bonanza of yellow and white perch. Large numbers over 10 inches long were recorded. Catch these delectables by slow trolling or drifting a small spinner/garden worm combo at depths of 10 to 20 feet. Once a school is located, switch to worm-sweetened jigs.

November 1993